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AN ELEGY

On the much to be Lamented Death of *Mary Eriskine* Relick of *James Hair*, Late Drugist in *Edinburgh*.

Who Departed this Life, July 2d. 1707.

IF they did *Dorcas* for her Thrift Bemoan,
And shew the Garments, which her Hands had Spun,
As Tokens of Her Painful, Useful Life,
And much Extol'd Her, for a Vertuous Wife;
How much more, may this Female, above nam'd,
For all Her Vertues be Extol'd and Fam'd?
First, the ALMIGHTY She did much Adore,
And Wickedness, with all her Heart Abhore:
And as to Heav'n, She did Due Homage Pay,
So to Her Neighbours, She shew'd Charity,
And Christian Love, according to Her Pow'r,
Not only to some Beggers, at Her Door,
To whom She always gave Alms, Less or More;
But ev'n to All, Her Goodness She did Show,
So far as Rules of Prudence could Allow.
For None can think She could give Gifts to All,
Thats not Consistent with a Stock thats Small;
Yet on the Matter, She did little Less,
As all the Neighbour-hood must needs Confess,
For She Her Ware at easie Prices Sold,
And consequently, this will always Hold,
That so much as She gave the Buyers down,
Below the Price Sold by the Rest in Town,
So much She Freely to the *Buyers* Gave,
And that to Them is Gain which they do Save;
No Fuisted Drugs, no *Ballance* of *Deceit*,
Nor other Tricks, to Circumveen and Cheat,
Were known to Her, She always did Deal Fair,
With Young and Old, that to Her did Repair.
The Poor, the Rich, the Child, the Ignorant,
Got without Fraud, the Drugs that They did Want,
The Skill'd Physician, and the Simple Youth,
Were Serv'd alike, with Equity and Truth.
The Covetous such Honest Methods Hate,
As Means which tend not to Encrease their State:
But such are the hid Ways of Providence,
That Honest Peoples Fortunes doth Advance,
By Methods that seem Cross, and here We see,
A Famous Instance of Prosperity,
Of One who hated each Siniistruous Way,
What Means She Gain'd, was not Profusly Spent,
But Keeped for a very Good Intent,
And Generously Vast Sums She did Bestow;
For Educating Girles, whose State are Low,
And other Pious, Good, and Generous Ways,
For Which, when Living, She *Deserved* Bayes,
And being *Dead*, Her Name shall Fragrant be,
To Generations of Posterity.